

From: [rick brosseau](#)
To: [Billington, Tracie; scouch@waterboards.ca.gov;](#)
CC: [Barbara Vlamis;](#)
Subject: RE: Save Our Water Comments Needed!
Date: Tuesday, February 06, 2007 6:32:23 PM
Attachments:

Tracie Billington
DWR Division of Planning and Local Assistance
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001
(916) 651-9226
tracieb@water.ca.gov

Scott Couch
SWRCB Division of Financial Planning
1001 I Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 341-5658
scouch@waterboards.ca.gov
cc: Barbara Vlamis, Executive Director, Butte Environmental Council
2/6/07

Dear Tracie & Scott:

While I am certainly not an expert on water management, I do believe that the folks at Butte Environmental Council here in Chico are not "Nay-Sayers" to everything, and seem pretty well-informed on these types of issues. However, if even half of these suggested comment points are true, I would hope that your agencies would consider them carefully before proceeding any further with the SVIRWM Implementation proposal. Thank you very much in advance for your consideration of these!

Sincerely yours,
Richard Brosseau



Comment Points

1. Do not fund or partially fund the Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management

(SVIRWM) Implementation Proposal. The majority of the implementation projects are detrimental

to Butte County's residents, economy, and the environment (20+ production wells tapping into the

aquifer). The SVIRWM Plan was developed without full input from the entities that will be most

impacted by the projects and strategies, such as the cities of Chico and Oroville, as well as those

with private wells, and the public at large.

2. The Northern California Water Association (NCWA) and its Joint Powers Authority (JPA) do not

represent Butte County nor does the SVIRWM Plan represent the public's interest. The Plan, which

is necessary to apply for implementation grants, fails as a "grassroots, bottom-up program comprised

of many projects, plans, and partnerships with common objectives and a long-term vision."

The SVIRWM Plan should be rejected and implementation funding denied due to the absence of a

genuine, regional plan.

3. The SVIRWM Plan failed to provide an accurate assessment of the existing conditions of the

aquifer, surface and subsurface hydrologic flow processes, and estimates of conditions under prolonged

droughts. Until this level of analysis is conducted, funding the preliminary projects that are

necessary for extraction and storage projects is premature.

4. There is not a water shortage in California as claimed by NCWA's JPA, the applicant for the

SVIRWM Implementation Proposal. The California Water Plan, released in 2005, indicates that water demand will decline in the next 25 years even with population increases (see link below). Using the same model the state used for its projections, the Pacific Institute found that California could

actually

decrease water use by 20% over the next 25 years while maintaining
a vibrant economy

(http://www.pacinst.org/reports/california_water_2030/index.htm)